

NOTE: FOR TABLE READ ONLY

"KRUSTY GETS KANCELLED"

Written by

John Swartzwelder

Cast List

HOMER.....DAN CASTELLANETA
MARGE.....JULIE KAVNER
BART.....NANCY CARTWRIGHT
LISA.....YEARDLEY SMITH
WIGGUM.....HANK AZARIA
BURNS.....HARRY SHEARER
SMITHERS.....HARRY SHEARER
KRUSTY.....DAN CASTELLANETA
MOE.....HANK AZARIA
BARNEY.....DAN CASTELLANETA
KENT BROCKMAN.....HARRY SHEARER
MCBAIN.....HARRY SHEARER
COAST GUARD OFFICER.....HANK AZARIA
ANNOUNCER (V.O.).....DAN CASTELLANETA
REVEREND LOVEJOY.....HARRY SHEARER
LOU.....HANK AZARIA
EDDIE.....HARRY SHEARER

NELSON.....NANCY CARTWRIGHT
 MILHOUSE.....PAMELA HAYDEN
 SIDESHOW MEL.....DAN CASTELLANETA
 MRS. KRABAPPEL.....JULIE KAVNER
 BARRY WHITE.....HARRY SHEARER
 JOHNNY CARSON.....HARRY SHEARER
 BETTE MIDLER.....JULIE KAVNER
 HUGH HEFNER.....DAN CASTELLANETA
 ELIZABETH TAYLOR.....JULIE KAVNER
 BILL MURRAY.....DAN CASTELLANETA
 LUKE PERRY.....HANK AZARIA
 ANTHONY KIEDIS.....DAN CASTELLANETA
 FLEA.....HANK AZARIA
 CHAD SMITH.....DAN CASTELLANETA
 ARIK MARSHALL.....HANK AZARIA
 GABBO.....HANK AZARIA
 DAVE SHUTTON.....HARRY SHEARER
 ARTHUR CRANDALL.....HANK AZARIA
 MISS PENNYCANDY.....PAMELA HAYDEN
 TINA BALLERINA.....PAMELA HAYDEN
 COMMERCIAL ANNOUNCER....HARRY SHEARER
 NEWSMAN (V.O.).....HANK AZARIA
 BARFLY.....HANK AZARIA
 ACTRESS.....PAMELA HAYDEN
 PARISHIONER.....DAN CASTELLANETA
 ALPHONSE.....DAN CASTELLANETA
 NETWORK EXECUTIVE #1....HARRY SHEARER

NETWORK EXECUTIVE #2....HANK AZARIA
CASTING DIRECTOR.....DAN CASTELLANETA
CAMERAMAN.....HANK AZARIA
DIRECTOR.....HANK AZARIA
MAN.....HANK AZARIA
TOUR GUIDE.....HANK AZARIA
AGENT.....DAN CASTELLANETA
MR. JOHANNSON.....HANK AZARIA
COUNTER BOY.....DAN CASTELLANETA
JACQUELINE.....PAMELA HAYDEN
CHARLEY WEAVER TYPE.....DAN CASTELLANETA
JASPER.....HARRY SHEARER
PRINCESS OPAL.....PAMELA HAYDEN
SOLDIER PUPPETS.....DAN/HANK/HARRY
COSSACK PUPPETS.....DAN/HANK/HARRY
GRAMPA.....DAN CASTELLANETA
OLD MAN.....HANK AZARIA
JAILBIRD.....HANK AZARIA
DR. HIBBERT.....HARRY SHEARER

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ACT ONE

FADE IN:

ON TV

We see a "Hollywood Squares" type setup on a beach. Springfield celebrities such as McBain, Lurleen Lumpkin, Troy McClure, The Capital City Goofball, etc. are in the squares.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Now back to Springfield Squares, live
from recently dredged Springfield
Harbor.

KENT BROCKMAN, the host, is wearing an Hawaiian shirt.

KENT BROCKMAN

(TO CONTESTANT) Now Jacqueline, I
believe it's your turn.

JACQUELINE

I'll take Ranier Wolfcastle to block.

KENT BROCKMAN

Ah, Ranier Wolfcastle, star of McBain
and the upcoming film, "Help, My Son
Is A Nerd!"

MCBAIN

My son returns from a fancy east coast college and I'm horrified to find he's a nerd.

KENT BROCKMAN

(LAUGHING) I'm laughing already.

MCBAIN

It's not a comedy.

KENT BROCKMAN

Oh.

Suddenly a coast guard cutter appears in the water behind the squares.

COAST GUARD OFFICER

Attention! This is the coast guard.
A fifty foot tidal wave is heading
this way. All game shows off the
beach!

The stars start panicking. We see BARRY WHITE in an upper square, which is decorated like a "swinging singles" pad.

BARRY WHITE

Everybody up to my square! It's safe
and it's sexy. Oh baby.

The panicky celebrities climb up to his square. We see a CHARLEY WEAVER-type character in the bottom square looking crotchety.

MCBAIN

Hurry, Charley. There isn't much
time.

CHARLEY WEAVER TYPE

I ain't goin' nowhere. I been in
this square pert near thirty seasons
and I ain't a-leavin' now.

A wave CRASHES into him.

CUT TO:

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM

Homer and Bart are watching TV.

HOMER

He's dead now.

Homer and Bart share a LAUGH.

ON TV

The word GABBO, in huge white letters, flashes irritatingly
on the screen.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Gabbo! Gabbo! Gabbo!

BACK TO SCENE

Homer and Bart look at each other.

BART

Did you see that?

HOMER

Yeah.

BART

What's Gabbo?

HOMER

I figure it's some guy's name. (BEAT)

Some guy named Gabbo.

EXT. SPRINGFIELD EXPRESSWAY - DAY

MARGE'S head is sticking out of the car window.

MARGE

What in the world?

We pull back to reveal that she's staring up at a huge billboard that says "Gabbo Is Coming." A long line of cars crawls along behind her. All the DRIVERS are gaping up at the billboard.

BEHIND THE BILLBOARD

EDDIE, on a motorcycle, aims a radar gun at the traffic.

EDDIE

(READING GUN) According to the radar gun, they're all under the limit.

WIGGUM

Lemme try mine.

He pulls out a gun and fires it, shooting tear gas into the crowd.

WIGGUM (CONT'D)

Oops. Wrong gun.

INT. SIMPSON KITCHEN

CU OF NEWSPAPER AD

It says "Gabbo Is Coming In Two Weeks."

ON HOMER

He is turning the ad every which way and squinting at it.

LISA

I don't think they're giving you enough information, Dad.

HOMER

I'll figure it out.

MARGE

Homer, it's just media-created hype.

HOMER

(DIMLY) It is? (EXCITED) I wonder who
Gabbo is!

INT. POLICE STATION

WIGGUM is looking out the window at a huge billboard that
says "Watch Out For Gabbo."

WIGGUM

We got anything on a guy named Gabbo?

LOU

We're checking it out, chief.

EDDIE

If he's a wanted criminal he'll
regret having put up all these
billboards.

EXT. STREET

BURNS and SMITHERS are walking past a billboard.

BURNS

Look Smithers! Garbo is coming!

SMITHERS

(UNCOMFORTABLE) Uh... yes sir.

Burns slicks back his hair in anticipation.

MONTAGE

A) Newspaper headline: "Five Days Till Gabbo."

B) LOVEJOY is delivering a thunderous sermon.

LOVEJOY

Everyone is saying "Gabbo this" and
"Gabbo that." But no one is saying
"Worship this" and "Jericho that."

JASPER raises his hand.

JASPER

What's this about Gabbo?

C) KENT BROCKMAN sits in front of a mortise: the word
"Gabbo" surrounded by question marks.

KENT BROCKMAN

Remember: Don't look directly at
Gabbo, just in case whatever he is,
is too bright. Scientists recommend
viewing him through a piece of smoked
glass.

D) Spinning newspaper Headline: "Gabbo Here Today!"

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM

The FAMILY is seated around the TV.

LISA

I can't believe it. Our first
glimpse of Gabbo!

HOMER

(PLACIDLY) He'll tell us what to do.

ON TV

Spotlights play over a plush curtain. We hear a DRUM ROLL

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

And now... here he is... Gabbo!

The curtain opens revealing a ventriloquist, ARTHUR CRANDALL. We ZOOM IN to a tight shot of his dummy, GABBO

GABBO

Hi folks! I'm Gabbo! And you can watch my show every afternoon at four.

DAVE SHUTTON

Isn't that opposite Krusty the Clown?

GABBO

Now, we all grew up watching Krusty, but, can he do this?

His head pops open. American Flags pop up and wave back and forth. Fireworks shoot up and:

MUSIC: "STARS AND STRIPES FOREVER"

INT. KRUSTY'S OFFICE - DAY

SIDESHOW MEL is watching TV.

SIDESHOW MEL

(CONCERNED) Krusty, I think you should see this.

KRUSTY (V.O.)

Ah, shut up.

ANGLE KRUSTY

He's having his fortune told.

KRUSTY

Now, Princess Opal, what do you see in my future?

PRINCESS OPAL turns over a tarot card.

PRINCESS OPAL

I see a grave threat to you.

KRUSTY

(SUSPICIOUS) It's Mel, isn't it?

(TURNS) Mel, you're fired.

PRINCESS OPAL

No. It comes from a talking doll.

KRUSTY

Oh.

SIDESHOW MEL

Did you say something, Krusty?

KRUSTY

Yeah, get me some coffee.

ON TV

The ORCHESTRA strikes up a ROUSING THEME SONG and Gabbo begins to SING.

GABBO

(SINGS) You're gonna like me/ You're
gonna love me/ 'Cause I can do most
anything...

Gabbo jumps off Crandall's lap and does a series of handsprings.

GABBO (CONT'D)

(SINGS) ... I can do flips/
(ADMONISHING CRANDALL) Don't move
your lips!/ I play the congas, dance
and sing...

Gabbo PLAYS a snappy conga solo as he TAP DANCES wildly and YODELS.

GABBO (CONT'D)

(SINGS) ... I'll give out shiny
dimes...

Gabbo flings a handful of sparkling dimes into the audience.

GABBO (CONT'D)

(SINGS) ... If it will entertain you/
I'll travel back in time...

Gabbo disappears for an instant, then rematerializes with a confused pilgrim. The pilgrim waves. A battalion of soldier puppets marches in from stage left.

SOLDIER PUPPETS

(SINGING) You're gonna like him!

A group of Russian Cossack puppets crouching and kick dancing enter from stage right.

COSSACK PUPPETS

(SINGING, RUSSIAN ACCENT) You're
gonna love him!

EVERYONE

(SINGING) It's the greatest show in
town!

The puppets spread their arms wide and drop to one knee. Four miniature Blue Angel jets cross over the stage leaving trails of colorful smoke.

ON BART AND LISA

They look at each other in amazement.

LISA

(STUNNED) This is already the
greatest series in television
history.

BART

Yeah. (UNCONVINCINGLY) Except for the
Krusty Show.

INT. KRUSTY'S DRESSING ROOM

KRUSTY is taking off his makeup. MISS PENNYCANDY is
there.

KRUSTY

That dummy doesn't scare me. I've
had plenty of guys come after me and
I've buried 'em all. Hobos,
sheriffs, sea captains, Joey
Bishop...

MISS PENNYCANDY

Don't forget the Special Olympics.

KRUSTY

(REMEMBERING FONDLY) Yeah. I
slaughtered the Special Olympics.

A FLUNKY comes in carrying a computer print out. Krusty
grabs it.

KRUSTY (CONT'D)

Are those the ratings? Let me see.

He looks at the ratings.

KRUSTY (CONT'D)

(UNHAPPY NOISE)

SPINNING NEWSPAPER

The headline says: "New King of Mid-Afternoon." Below it
is a picture of Gabbo wearing a crown, his arms raised in
victory.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NEXT DAY

Bart, MILHOUSE and MARTIN are racing HO-scale cars on a small oval racetrack. Neither car is beating the other.

MILHOUSE

This is boring.

BART

I wonder what would happen if I put
my train on there.

NELSON

I bet it'd go really fast.

Bart puts his locomotive on the racetrack. After a beat it begins to smoke.

BART/MILHOUSE

Cool.

NELSON

Let's throw some water on it!

MILHOUSE

(LOOKING AT WATCH) Hey, it's four
o'clock.

The boys rush over to the TV and turn it on. We see the train start to melt.

ON TV

We see the Krusty show.

MILHOUSE

Hey, this isn't Gabbo.

NELSON

Yeah! What's the gag?

BART

Sorry, gentlemen. This is a Krusty household. And as long as you're under this roof...

We hear the front door SLAM. They are gone.

INT. TV STUDIO

Krusty is sitting with an old rickety dummy named ALPHONSE. He is wearing a huge moustache that completely covers his mouth.

KRUSTY

So you want ventriloquism, do ya?
Watch this. (TO DUMMY) Hello
Alphonse, I've got a riddle for you.
Why is an icebox like a steam engine?

ALPHONSE

(SLIGHTLY HIGHER VOICE) I don't know.
Why is an iceb...

Alphonse's jaw suddenly falls in, making him look grotesque. The kids SCREAM in terror.

KRUSTY

What? (LOOKING AT DUMMY) Oh. It
always does that.

The kids continue to SCREAM.

KRUSTY (CONT'D)

Hey, the dummy can't hurt you. He's
not even alive. He's dead!

The kids SCREAM louder. Krusty KNOCKS on the dummy's head to show it's made of wood. The head caves in, and the dummy's arms spring off and CLATTER to the floor. The kid SCREAM even louder. PULL BACK to Bart watching the show.

BART

(MOAN)

ON TV

A fed-up Krusty kicks the dummy into the audience. The kids SCREAM.

KRUSTY

(FRUSTRATED NOISE, THEN) Well kids,

this is where you would watch Itchy

and Scratchy, except they're on the

Gabbo show now. (UNDER BREATH)

Greedy little back stabbers. (NORMAL

VOICE) So, here's Eastern Europe's

favorite cat and mouse team: Worker &

Parasite!

We see a title card in some indecipherable foreign language. Then we see an arty cartoon with moving paper cutouts of a CAT and MOUSE. They move around aimlessly, CHATTERING in weirdly pitched voices. First we see them in a factory, then standing in a food line, then struggling through a large mass of black squiggles. Suddenly the cartoon ends. A black title card says: "Endut! Hoch Hech!"

ON KRUSTY

KRUSTY (CONT'D)

What the hell was that?

ON THE AUDIENCE

The kids look baffled. Some are sneaking out.

KRUSTY (CONT'D)

Hey! Where do you think you're
going?

Two or three of the kids break into a run.

KRUSTY (CONT'D)

Come back here! Bolt those doors!

INT. KRUSTY'S OFFICE - A LITTLE LATER

Krusty is sadly looking at a wall chart of his falling ratings.

KRUSTY

(QUEASY NOISE) Not good. (SUDDENLY)

Hey, what's this ratings chart doing here?

MISS PENNYCANDY

The Gabbo people sent it over.

KRUSTY

Well, you didn't have to hang it in my office! (SIGHS) I gotta do something...

MONTAGE

A) Krusty is on stage with Sideshow Mel.

KRUSTY

Hey, Mel, catch.

Krusty throws a beehive at Sideshow Mel. Bees fly out and immediately start stinging him.

SIDESHOW MEL

(MOANS)

KRUSTY

You're bringing everybody down, Mel.

The kids look aghast.

B) We see a "Krusty Burger" is changing its sign to read "Gabbo Burger."

C) Krusty speaks earnestly to the camera.

KRUSTY

All right, here's the deal. Every
time you watch my show, I will send
you \$40.

Krusty holds up a check.

COMMERCIAL ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

(QUICKLY) Checks will not be honored.

SUPER: CHECKS WILL NOT BE HONORED

D) We see the "Krusty Desert Klassic" first being changed
to the "Krusty Desert Gabbo," then, after WORKMEN scratch
their heads for awhile, the "Gabbo Desert Klassic."

INT. KRUSTY STUDIO - NEXT DAY

We see a disheveled Krusty.

KRUSTY

(RAMBLING) I got this thing on my
neck... it keeps getting bigger...
Can we get a closeup?

DIRECTOR (V.O.)

I'm afraid not, Krusty. Our budget's
been cut. We're down to one camera.

ANGLE ON CAMERA

It's a very old, clunky camera. On the side is written:
"Arthur Godfrey and Friends." It smokes and sparks.

ON STAGE

KRUSTY

Mel, get down on your knees and pray
with me.

MEL

But I'm an atheist.

KRUSTY

I said pray!

Krusty shoves Mel down on his knees. Two NETWORK EXECUTIVES quietly approach Krusty.

NETWORK EXECUTIVE #1

It's over, Krusty.

KRUSTY

(PUZZLED) But I didn't hear my theme song.

NETWORK EXECUTIVE #2

Gabbo bought your theme song. If you use it, you could be arrested.

The executives start to lead him off.

KRUSTY

But I'm not done with the show.

NETWORK EXECUTIVE #2

Show's over. You've been cancelled.

KRUSTY

What's replacing me?

NETWORK EXECUTIVE #1

Nothing. The government's paying us not to produce TV shows.

Krusty is shaken. He takes off his sunglasses and turns to the audience.

KRUSTY

Well kids, I guess this is it.

(CHOKING UP) I'm gonna miss each and every one of you who stood by me.

We PAN over to the audience. It is empty, except for Bart
Bart starts to CLAP.

KRUSTY (CONT'D)

I don't need your pity.

FADE OUT

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. KRUSTY'S OFFICE.

TINA BALLERINA, CORPORAL PUNISHMENT, SIDESHOW MEL and a subdued MR. TEENY are standing in front of Krusty's desk. Krusty looks tired.

KRUSTY

Well, that's it. It's over. I think we can be proud that we never did a bad show... except for that week Ray Jay Johnson was my co-host. "You can call me Ray... and you can call me Jay..." (DISGUSTED NOISE) That thing was funny for about three seconds. But the important thing is, we're like family.

SIDESHOW MEL

(MOVED) Krusty, I...

KRUSTY

(MEAN) Shut your hole.

EXT. KRUSTY'S OFFICE

Krusty walks out. Bart walks up to him.

BART

Say it ain't so, Krusty.

KRUSTY

Ah, don't worry about me. I'm not just a clown, you know. I'm also an actor, a singer, a hoofer!

Krusty starts tap dancing, running up the wall a la Donald O'Connor in "Singing in the Rain." He dances out of frame, hits something on the ceiling, then FALLS down landing smack on his head.

KRUSTY

Fecockta smoke detector.

INT. STUDIO - CATTLE CALL - DAY

Krusty is auditioning for a Beverly Hills 90210-type show. He has fake sideburns glued onto his head and is wearing no shirt. We can see that his makeup ends at his neck. He has an ACTRESS in a passionate embrace.

ACTRESS

Oh Kyle, I just don't think I fit in
here at Melrose Place.

KRUSTY

From now on, I'll be doing the
thinking for both of us.

He kisses her. His nose presses against her face and HONKS slightly.

CASTING DIRECTOR (O.S.)

Next.

INT. JOHNNY CARSON'S HOME - DAY

Krusty is playing tennis with JOHNNY CARSON. Johnny serves.

KRUSTY

(HUFFS AND PUFFS) Johnny, I gotta
recharge my pacemaker.

He plugs the pacemaker into the wall.

KRUSTY (CONT'D)

Ah, that's the stuff.

JOHNNY

Krusty, how ya holding up?

KRUSTY

I'm kinda worried about the future.
How do you deal with it?

JOHNNY

Well, you've been on TV longer than I
have. I'm sure you saved up quite a
nest egg.

KRUSTY

(UNHAPPY NOISE)

JOHNNY

Krusty, you wanna stay for dinner?

KRUSTY

Nah, sorry.

JOHNNY

That's too bad. Tonight my guests
will be Dr. Carl Sagan and from the
San Diego Zoo, Joan Embrey.

Johnny gets up to escort Krusty out.

JOHNNY

Where's your car, Krusty?

KRUSTY

Uh... I parked it down the street.

He walks outside and pulls out a bus map.

KRUSTY (CONT'D)

Let's see... I take the number four
to the number two...

EXT. RACETRACK

Krusty is excitedly trying to root his horse home. He waves his ticket.

KRUSTY

Come on! You stupid horse! I got my
last ten bucks on you! No, don't look
at me! Run! (BEAT) No! Don't come
over here! (MOANS)

He tears up his ticket and shambles off.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM

Bart, Lisa and Grampa are watching Gabbo on TV.

ON TV

GABBO

And now, it's time for another
patented Gabbo Crank Call!

BACK TO SCENE

BART

I can't believe it. He stole this
bit from Krusty!

LISA

Yeah, well Krusty stole it from Steve
Allen.

GRAMPA

Everything is stolen nowadays. Why
the fax machine is nothing but a
waffle iron with a phone attached.

ON TV

We see Gabbo holding a phone. He now speaks in a smooth
George Takei-type voice.

GABBO

Hello. Is this Krusty the Klown?

KRUSTY (V.O)

Is this the callback for that porno
film? Look, I was a little nervous
that day. But I'm all man, I can
assure you...

GABBO

No, I represent a Japanese camera
company. We'd like to pay you two
million dollars to do a camera
commercial.

KRUSTY (V.O.)

Whoa! Me rikey velly much. (THEN,
DESPERATE) I hope I didn't offend
you. I need this bad.

GABBO

Bad enough to hit yourself over the
head with the phone?

KRUSTY (V.O.)

You got it. (HITTING NOISE) Ow.

(HITTING NOISE) Ow. (etc.)

Gabbo and Crandall break out LAUGHING as well as the kids in the audience.

BART

Somebody ought to ruin his career the way he ruined Krusty's.

LISA

Two wrongs don't make a right, Bart.

BART

Yes they do.

LISA

No they don't.

BART

Yes they do.

LISA

Dad...

HOMER

(READING NEWSPAPER) Two wrongs make a right, Lisa.

INT. GABBO SHOW

Crandall and Gabbo are smiling broadly at the camera.

CRANDALL

We'll be back after this commercial for Gabbo Airlines.

We hear the ORCHESTRA START UP. Gabbo's smile fades.

GABBO

That ought to hold the little
s.o.b.'s.

CRANDALL

Quiet, Gabbo.

ON THE STUDIO FLOOR

Bart walks up to a CAMERAMAN.

BART

(CHUCKLES)

CAMERAMAN

(WISE GUY VOICE) Hey, boyo, what's so
funny?

BART

Well, it's... Ah, you wouldn't be
interested. (LAUGHS MORE)

CAMERAMAN

Try me.

BART

Ah, it's too low brow.

CAMERAMAN

I'm low brow.

BART

Well... somebody just wrote a bawdy
limerick on the men's room wall.

CAMERAMAN

This I gotta see!

He runs off. Bart goes up to the camera.

ON STAGE

GABBO (O.S.)

Little s.o.b.'s.

CRANDALL (OS)

I wish you wouldn't keep saying that.

DIRECTOR (O.S.)

30 seconds to air.

Bart turns on the camera.

ON TV

Gabbo is looking straight into the camera.

GABBO

All the kids in Springfield are
s.o.b.'s.

ON TV - THAT NIGHT

Kent Brockman is giving his two cents.

BROCKMAN

I say we should forgive Gabbo. After
all, he didn't know the camera was
on. And that's my two cents. (BEAT)
Well, that ought to hold you
(CHUCKLE) s.o.b.'s. (LOOKS OFF STAGE)
Well the puppet said it, why can't I?

He puts his hand out to cover the camera lens.

BROCKMAN (CONT'D)

This editorial is over!

CU NEWSPAPER

Headline: "Gabbo Still #1 In Springfield". A smaller
headline says "Brockman Fired"

EXT. PARK

Bart and Lisa are walking through the park. Lisa sees something and GASPS.

BART

Oh no!

BART'S POV

A bedraggled Krusty is standing by the road holding a sign which reads "WILL DROP PANTS FOR FOOD." Bart and Lisa run up to Krusty.

BART

Krusty, are you making any money?

KRUSTY

Nah. That guy is giving it away for free.

Krusty points to an OLD MAN who has his pants around his ankles.

OLD MAN

(SINGS) The old grey mare/ she ain't
what she used to be/ ain't what she
used to be/ ain't what she used to
be...

INT. KRUSTY'S APARTMENT

Bart, Lisa, and Krusty enter the apartment. It is a mess, littered with old newspapers, pies, Popsicle sticks etc.

BART

I don't get it. How come you don't
have any money left?

KRUSTY

The three p's. Ponies, popsicles
and...uh..women.

Bart and Lisa look at a bunch of framed photos on the wall

LISA

I didn't know you knew Bette Midler.

KRUSTY

She was the original Tina Ballerina.

I had to dump her.

BART

Why?

KRUSTY

She didn't twirl right. Top heavy or

something. I don't know what it was.

Bart points to a picture of LUKE PERRY. It has darts in it.

BART

Wow! You know Luke Perry, too?

KRUSTY

(SNORTS) Know him? He's my worthless half brother.

LISA

He's a big TV star.

KRUSTY

(DISMISSIVELY) Yeah, on Fox...

Bart looks at a photos which we don't see.

BART

Elizabeth Taylor... Hugh Hefner...

how do you know the Red Hot Chili Peppers?

KRUSTY

We were in a movie together. They were hard- partying bag boys and I was the uptight produce manager. Mr. Whipple appeared in a cameo... it cost us a fortune.

LISA

If we get all of these big stars to appear on a special with Krusty, it might get his career going again.

KRUSTY

Now, wait a minute, Lisa. I'm not sure I want to do a special. I have a tradition of quality to uphold.

BART

What about that album you did with the cast of "Battlestar Gallactica"?

KRUSTY

(BEAT) Go. Do.

Bart and Lisa run out. Krusty picks up a video cassette entitled "'STUPORMARKET' starring Krusty the Klown and the Red Hot Chili Peppers." Red Hot Chili Peppers are wheeling an outraged Krusty out in a shopping cart. Krusty pulls out the video cassette and sticks it in the VCR.

ON TV

We see angry produce manager Krusty yelling at the off screen Red Hot Chili Peppers. Turnips are flying around.

KRUSTY

If I see one more turnip flying through the air I...

A turnip flies into his mouth.

KRUSTY (CONT'D)

(MUFFLED NOISES)

BACK TO SCENE

KRUSTY

(CHUCKLING) Still holds up.

FADE OUT

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

EXT. FREEWAY

A billboard reads "LITTER REMOVAL NEXT TWO MILES COURTESY OF BETTE MIDLER." Bart and Lisa are standing next to Bette Midler, who is picking up trash along the highway with a long pointed stick. She spears a particularly large piece of trash.

BETTE MIDLER

(SATISFIED) Got it.

LISA

(APPRECIATIVELY) Nice one.

She puts the trash into a large plastic bag.

BETTE MIDLER

(SIGHS HAPPILY) We're Americans. We deserve clean highways.

BART

It's in the constitution, ma'am. (A LITTLE IMPATIENT) Now to get back to what we were talking about...

Two young men drive past in a pick-up truck. They throw a beer can out the window.

BETTE MIDLER

You pigs! You can-tossing, highway-despoiling, celebrity-angering pigs!

She picks up the can and runs after the truck. She grabs onto the rear view mirror and pulls up to the cab. Jailbird is driving.

JAILBIRD

Oh nooo! Bette Midler.

She throws the can back at them, then heads back to Bart and Lisa. She resumes picking up trash.

BETTE MIDLER

(SWEETLY) Now where were we?

LISA

We were asking you to do the Krusty show.

BETTE MIDLER

(ANGRILY) No!

She crushes a can with her hand.

BART

Look Bette, I realize Krusty fired you, but you've been so successful. Why harbor a grudge?

BETTE MIDLER

I wanted to be Tina Ballerina, forever. And he took that away from me. He never even told me why.

LISA

You were top heavy. You didn't twirl right.

BETTE MIDLER

So that was it. (THINKS) It's true I do wobble a little when I twirl. Maybe he was right in dumping me. (THINKS) Okay. Tell Krusty he can count me in.

A coke can is tossed out of another pick-up truck and rolls up to Bette Midler's feet. She picks it up.

BETTE MIDLER (CONT'D)

(GRIM) It's time to take out the
trash.

She throws the bottle at the speeding truck. It flies into the cab. The truck goes out of control, smashes into a mountain, and explodes.

INT. TOUR BUS

A TOUR GUIDE is pointing to a large mansion as a group of TOURISTS in the bus look on.

TOUR GUIDE

And off to your left is Hugh Hefner's
Shelbyville Pad.

INT. PLAYBOY MANSION

Hugh Hefner is showing Bart around. They are both wearing smoking jackets and PUFFING on pipes. (Bart's is a bubble pipe.)

HUGH HEFNER

A lot of people know about the grotto
and the game room...

BART

Of course.

HUGH HEFNER

But few know about the laboratory,
the biosphere, the alternative energy
research center...

Bart looks in the laboratory and sees PLAYBOY BUNNY SCIENTISTS hard at work.

BART

Fascinating.

They walk on. Bart looks out the window at a large gray structure on the mansion grounds. He points at it with the stem of his pipe.

BART (CONT'D)

Desalinization plant?

HUGH HEFNER

(NODS) Yes. The grotto uses so much water... the bunnies felt we should go this way.

BART

Smart bunnies, Hef. I can call you Hef, can't I?

HUGH HEFNER

No.

EXT. MOE'S TAVERN

The sign on the front reads "Tonight Only: "The Red Hot Chili Peppers."

INT. MOE'S TAVERN

"THE RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS" stand looking angrily at MOE.

ANTHONY KIEDIS

You told our agent this place holds thirty-thousand people.

MOE

(LYING) It does. We had thirty thousand here last night. Now play. The audience is getting restless.

We see the audience consists of BARNEY sitting on one folding chair.

BARNEY

We want Chilly Willy! We want Chilly Willy!

BART

Hey, would you guys like to appear on a Krusty the Klown Special?

FLEA

(ASIDE) Sure -- if you get us out of this gig.

BART

No problemo. (POINTS) Hey, Moe! Look over there.

Moe looks in the other direction. Bart motions for the band to sneak out the door.

MOE

What?... What am I lookin' at? I don't see nothin'. I'm going to stop looking soon... (Etc.)

Moe continues to look in the other direction.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM

Bart and Lisa are looking over their list, which now includes Bette Midler, Hugh Hefner, and The Red Hot Chili Peppers. Marge sticks her head in.

MARGE

Are you children still playing your celebrity game?

LISA

Yes.

MARGE

That's nice.

EXT. ELIZABETH TAYLOR'S HOUSE - ESTABLISHING

We see her name on the mailbox.

INT. ELIZABETH TAYLOR'S HOUSE

Elizabeth Taylor is wearing rubber gloves and carefully polishing her Oscars. She wears her ring on the outside of her glove. Her agent comes in.

AGENT

A couple of grade school kids wanted you to be on a Krusty special. I told them to buzz off.

ELIZABETH TAYLOR

Good.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE

Bart hangs up the phone and looks at Lisa, who is busily going over their celebrity list.

BART

Bill Murray wants his name added to the list.

LISA

Bill Murray? How did he get our number?

BART

I don't know. But we might as well put him down.

LISA

(SKEPTICAL) Okay.

Lisa writes Bill Murray's name down on her list.

INT. KRUSTY'S APARTMENT

There is a brief KNOCK on the door, then Bart and Lisa race in.

BART

Krusty! We've got great news!

(YELLS)

Krusty has ballooned up like Elvis. He's sitting on the floor with hundreds of Popsicle sticks and wrappers around him.

LISA

Krusty! What have you done to yourself?

KRUSTY

I've been eating popsicles. (BEAT)

Oh, and building things out of popsicle sticks.

He points to a scale model of Paris built out of popsicle sticks.

KRUSTY (CONT'D)

Still a little left on that one.

He crawls over to the Eiffel Tower and licks the top stick.

KRUSTY

(RAVENOUS LICKING NOISES)

BART

We're gonna have to get you back into shape.

MONTAGE

A) Krusty and Marge are wearing matching leotards in the Simpsons' living room and doing head rotations. Marge's hair knocks items off shelves, the cat dodges her with a YOWL, etc. Krusty is MOANING pathetically as Homer looks on, amused.

HOMER

Boy are you fat! Hee hee! And look!
You're bald too!

MARGE

Homer!

B) Krusty bends over to do a toe touch. He can't get up.

KRUSTY

Aggh, my back is broken.

MARGE

No it's not.

KRUSTY

My back is broken lady!

INT. DR. HIBBERT'S OFFICE - A LITTLE LATER

Krusty, in the same position, is being x-rayed by DOCTOR HIBBERT.

HIBBERT

His back isn't broken. But there is
a surprising number of popsicle
sticks in his stomach.

C) Krusty tries to hit Homer in the face with a pie. Homer is open mouthed. Krusty misses and throws the pie in the garbage. Homer looks very disappointed.

KRUSTY

(MOANS) I'll never get my aim back.

BART

You've got to keep working on it.

Bart takes a hot pie out of the oven. Krusty hits Homer with it. Homer SCREAMS, then makes delighted CHEWING NOISES.

D) Homer and Krusty are both in boxing trunks, sparring. Maggie is watching TV.

KRUSTY

Oh, why am I bothering? It's
hopeless.

A Gabbo promo comes on television.

GABBO (V.O.)

Hi kids! It's me, Gabbo!

(IRRITATING, ALMOST NASTY, LAUGH) Ha
ha ha ha ha!

Krusty starts hitting Homer furiously. An alarmed Maggie switches the channel on TV with the remote.

NEWSMAN (V.O.)

Pork prices rose in early trading
today.

A GROWLING Homer starts pummeling Krusty furiously.

E) Krusty admires himself in the mirror as the Simpsons look on.

KRUSTY

I've done it. I'm back in shape.
(OFF MARGE'S LOOK) Well, I never was
slim.

LISA

Now to get the old Krusty Gang back
together.

EXT. GULP 'N BLOW

INT. GULP 'N BLOW - CONTINUOUS

Krusty, Bart and Lisa are talking to Sideshow Mel, who is wearing a badge identifying him as "Assistant Manager Mel."

KRUSTY

But you've gotta come back, Mel!

We're a team.

MEL

No, Krusty. That phase of my life is over. To be honest, you always treated me rather shabbily. On our last show you actually tried to dissolve my body with chemicals.

KRUSTY

Come on, you wanna waste your life hanging out with a bunch of zit-faced klutzes?

A teenaged COUNTER BOY approaches Krusty.

COUNTER BOY

(TEENAGE VOICE) Here's your taco, sir.

It falls out of his hands into the fryer.

COUNTER BOY (CONT'D)

Oops. It fell in the fryer. I'll get it out. (MOANS) (MOANS AGAIN)

MEL

Sorry, Krusty. I like it here. Mr. Johansson treats me with dignity.

MR. JOHANNSON walks up and puts his arm around Mel.

MR. JOHANNSON

Is this clown bothering you, Mel?

MEL

That's all right, Mr. Johannson. I
can handle it.

The counter boy approaches with Krusty's taco.

COUNTER BOY

Here's your taco, sir.

KRUSTY

I don't want it.

COUNTER BOY

But this comes out of my salary. If
I had a girlfriend, she'd kill me.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - DAY

Bart opens the front door. BILL MURRAY is standing there
holding two suitcases.

BART

Bill Murray!

The rest of the family rushes to the door.

LISA

It really is him!

BILL MURRAY

I thought I'd stay here with you
folks until we're done with the
special.

BART

Are all the hotels full?

BILL MURRAY

No. (LONG BEAT) I just thought I'd
stay here.

HOMER

Wow. Bill Murray in my own home!
For two whole weeks! You can sleep
on the sofa, it folds right out.

Homer pulls at the sofa, GROWLING. He rips stuffing out
with his hands.

HOMER (CONT'D)

Oh, wait. That was the old sofa.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - DINING ROOM - LATER

Bill Murray is eating dinner with the family. He eats
some peas.

BILL MURRAY

Marge, these peas are delicious.

HOMER

Ha! Ha! This guy kills me!

BILL MURRAY

(TO LISA) Please pass the butter.

HOMER

(LAUGHING VERY HARD) Stop! Stop!

He falls out of his chair.

INT. MOE'S

MRS. KRABAPPEL is hitting on Hugh Hefner, who has FOUR
WOMEN with him.

MRS. KRABAPPEL

Hey Hef, why don't you ditch those
four losers and come back to my
place?

Hefner looks at her curiously.

HUGH HEFNER

I beg your pardon?

MRS. KRABAPPEL

Don't you remember me? Edna
Krabappel. Girls of Bryn Mar 1966.
Of course I was Edna Sourpuss then.

HUGH HEFNER

Oh yes. You like snow skiing and you
have a star shaped mole on your...

MRS. KRABAPPEL

(COY) It's still there...

HUGH HEFNER

(TO PLAYMATES) Take the limo back to
the mansion. Be sure to turn out the
lights and feed Jimmy Caan.

MRS. KRABAPPEL

(TO PLAYMATES) And don't wait up for
him.

HUGH HEFNER

(TO PLAYMATES) No, don't wait up for
me.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM

Bill Murray is eating a huge submarine sandwich on the couch. Homer watches him, frowning.

HOMER

Every time I look up he's got his
head in the refrigerator.

BILL MURRAY

Hey! The Razor's Edge is on cable!

He turns up the volume. Homer MOANS.

HOMER

Marge, make him go back to Hollywood.

MARGE

It's just for one more night, Homer.

HOMER

(MOANS)

CU NEWSPAPER

Headline: "Krusty Special Airs Today!"

INT. BACKSTAGE AT THE KRUSTY SHOW

In the background we can see the show's regulars and the celebrities warming up, doing stretching exercises, memorizing their lines etc. Tina Ballerina walks up to Bette Midler.

TINA BALLERINA

I've always envied you.

BETTE MIDLER

(BITTER) Oh yeah. Right. Like you'd
rather be Bette Midler than Tina
Ballerina. Don't make me laugh.

Tina pats Bette's hand.

TINA BALLERINA

(QUIETLY) Be strong.

Krusty is making a crude balloon animal.

KRUSTY

Look, kids. A horsie! And what are
you making, Sideshow Luke Perry?

PAN OVER to LUKE PERRY dressed like Sideshow Mel. He has
twisted a balloon into the shape of a merry-go-round.

LUKE

A 19th Century carousel.

He turns it and it moves; the horses go up and down.

KRUSTY

Upstage me, will ya! Get the hell
out!

LUKE

Why do you hate me?

KRUSTY

'Cause you got the looks and the
charm, and what did I get? Bupkis!

LUKE PERRY

Bupkis? Bupkis? Krusty, you had all
the things I wanted. Like... Uh --
that cool bubble pipe.

KRUSTY

That was for asthma! Asthma!

(COUGHS)

He pulls out an inhaler and uses it.

LUKE PERRY

Look, there must be something I can
do on the show. (BEAT) Please. (BEAT)
For Mom's sake.

KRUSTY

(DISGUSTED) Well... maybe we can find
something.

Krusty imagines Luke Perry being FIRED out of a cannon
directly at a brick wall.

LUKE PERRY IN DREAM

(SCREAMS)

BACK TO SCENE

KRUSTY

(CHUCKLES)

LUKE PERRY

Thank you, Herschel.

KRUSTY

Shut up you little punk.

EXT. KRUSTY THEATER

There is a huge line for Krusty's show. No one is waiting
in line for the Gabbo Show, across the street. Crandall
and Gabbo are standing outside smoking and looking at the
line.

GABBO

I don't like it.

CRANDALL

It's just a special. A one-shot.

GABBO

Well he's got Johnny Carson, Bette
Midler AND Hugh Hefner. What've we
got?

CRANDALL

C+C Music Factory.

Gabbo's head spins around miserably.

GABBO

(UNHAPPY SPINNING NOISES)

INT. KRUSTY SHOW

Krusty stands in front of seven foot high letters that say
"Krusty." He begins SINGING his signature tune.

KRUSTY

(SINGING) Send in the clowns... those
daffy, laffy clowns... those
loveable, shoveable, nothing-they're-
aboveable clowns.

There is a huge outburst of APPLAUSE.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. KRUSTY SHOW - NEAR THE END OF THE SONG

KRUSTY

(EMOTIONALLY) Send in... the
clowns...

Mel walks in, dressed in his Sideshow Mel costume.

MEL

(SINGING) They're already here...

Krusty and Mel hug affectionately. The crowd goes crazy
with emotion and excitement.

MONTAGE

Of exciting scenes from the Krusty Special.

A) Luke Perry, wearing an old fashioned leather helmet and a white suit with "Luke" in sequins across his chest, climbs down into the muzzle of a cannon. Krusty gets ready to light the fuse.

KRUSTY

(LOOKING AT AUDIENCE) Are you
comfortable in there, Luke Perry?

LUKE PERRY

(MUFFLED) Fire away, Krusty.

Luke Perry is SHOT out of the cannon, through a window in the back of the auditorium. We hear a body HIT the pavement and slide, and a car SLAM on its brakes.

KRUSTY

(NERVOUS LAUGH) (MUTTERS) Can't even
get shot out of a cannon right.

LUKE PERRY (O.S.)

My face! My valuable face!

B) Red Hot Chili Peppers is PLAYING "Give it Away." Krusty comes up to CHAD SMITH, and grabs his drumsticks.

KRUSTY

Yoink.

Chad Smith grabs Krusty's clown nose.

CHAD SMITH

Double yoink!

He SNAPS the nose back onto Krusty's face. Krusty sticks the drumsticks in his mouth like a walrus. He makes WALRUS NOISES and hams it up.

C) Elizabeth Taylor is watching the show at home as she polishes a huge diamond with a toothbrush. She holds the diamond up to her eye briefly and we see 50 violet eyes. She resumes polishing as the SOUND OF WALRUS NOISES and APPLAUSE is heard over the TV.

ELIZABETH TAYLOR

I've got to fire that agent.

D) Johnny Carson stands on stage in a suit. A car is behind him.

KRUSTY

Now, Johnny, whatcha got for us.

Some jokes -- a little magic?

JOHNNY

Actually I thought I'd lift this 1987

Buick Skylark over my head.

Johnny lifts the car over his head.

KRUSTY

Hi yo! Johnny, that's amazing!

JOHNNY

Oh yeah? Get a load of this.

Johnny starts SINGING "Amazing Grace" (we dub in an opera singer's voice). He spins the car as he does so.

KRUSTY

How come you never did this on your show?

JOHNNY

Well I was going to but then Bob Hope would drop by... Robert Blake would run long. You know how it is.

KRUSTY

(GROANS) Robert Blake? That guy has
a story for everything.

E) INT. GABBO SHOW

Gabbo's staring intently at the Krusty Show on the monitor

GABBO

I don't like this. I don't like this
one bit.

He turns and looks back at the stage. C+C Music Factory
finishes playing "KEEP IT COMING."

SFX: CRICKETS

F) Bette Midler is on stage with Krusty. As she SINGS to
him he listens emotionally, head in hand, as in the Bette
Midler/Johnny Carson moment on the Tonight Show.

BETTE MIDLER

(SINGING) Did you ever know that
you're my hero?

Krusty nods. He knows.

BETTE MIDLER (CONT'D)

(SINGING) And everything I'd like to
be?

KRUSTY

(SINGING) You can fly higher than an
eagle...

BETTE MIDLER & KRUSTY

(SINGING) Cause you (I) are (am) the
wind beneath my (your) wings.

The audience CHEERS wildly.

BETTE MIDLER

This was a great show, Krusty. You deserve an Emmy for this.

KRUSTY

Forget it. The Academy hates me. I don't know why. Bunch of old, know-nothin' dinosaurs wouldn't know entertainment if it bit 'em in the
(SEES CAMERA) Hey hey!

INT. GABBO SHOW

Gabbo and Crandall are watching the monitor grimly.

CRANDALL

Big deal. He gets all these guests. Once. What's he going to do on his next show?

KRUSTY (V.O.)

Next time our guests will include Pope John Paul II, 'J.D. Salinger, Martin & Lewis, all the living members of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, and special guest Gabbo!

Gabbo and Crandall slowly turn and look at each other.

INT. MOE'S

The wrap party for the Krusty Show is in progress. There is a banner hung over the bar that says "Congratulations Krusty." Hugh Hefner is trying out the Love Tester and is obviously not very happy with the result. Tina Ballerina is trying to teach Bette Midler to twirl right. A BARFLY comes in and looks over the new clientele.

BARFLY

Boy has this place gone downhill.

He turns up his nose and exits. Luke Perry has a bandaid on his face and his hair is mussed up.

BARNEY

Yo, Luke Perry. Where are all your beautiful girls now?

LUKE PERRY

Over there. Those body guards are holding them back.

Luke points to BODYGUARDS, outside, holding back a throng of beautiful girls.

Krusty is with Johnny Carson.

JOHNNY

Now, Krusty, I just hope you remembered to save your money this time.

A MAN approaches Krusty.

MAN

Here's that ruby-studded clown nose you ordered, Krusty. (HOLDS IT UP)

KRUSTY

(UNHAPPY NOISE)

ON BILL MURRAY

He is standing next to Homer, eating free peanuts out of the bowl.

BILL MURRAY

Say Homer, I know the special is
over, but can I still stay at your
house?

Homer looks down.

HOMER

You're wearing my pants.

Bill Murray thinks a beat, then runs off.

The Red Hot Chili Peppers walk in. Moe sees them.

MOE

(ANGRILY) You guys!

Moe BREAKS a beer bottle on the bar and brandishes the
jagged edge at the band.

ARIK MARSHALL

(THINKING FAST) Phone call for you.

Arik hands the phone to Moe. Moe listens.

MOE

Hello? Hello? All I hear is a dial
tone. If someone doesn't start
talking I'm hanging up soon. (Etc.)

He continues to listen to the phone. The band sneaks out.

ON KRUSTY, BART & LISA

Krusty toasts Bart and Lisa. They all have chocolate malts

BART

To Krusty. The greatest entertainer
in the world. (BEAT) Except for that
guy.

He points to Johnny Carson twirling the jukebox in the air while SINGING opera.

FADE OUT

END OF STORY